

To: McGrath, Shaun[McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov]
Cc: Curry, Ron[Curry.Ron@epa.gov]
From: Blumenfeld, Jared
Sent: Fri 8/28/2015 8:08:34 PM
Subject: Re: Utah DEQ Report on San Juan River Sampling Results

Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 28, 2015, at 12:38 PM, McGrath, Shaun <McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov> wrote:

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> As discussed on the call today.

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> Sent from my iPhone

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> Begin forwarded message:

>

> From: "Dhieux, Joyel" <Dhieux.Joyel@epa.gov<mailto:Dhieux.Joyel@epa.gov>>

> To: "McGrath, Shaun" <McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov<mailto:McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov>>

> Cc: "Hestmark, Martin" <Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov<mailto:Hestmark.Martin@epa.gov>>, "Ostrander, David" <Ostrander.David@epa.gov<mailto:Ostrander.David@epa.gov>>, "Williams, Laura" <williams.laura@epa.gov<mailto:williams.laura@epa.gov>>, "Myers, Craig" <Myers.Craig@epa.gov<mailto:Myers.Craig@epa.gov>>, "Card, Joan" <Card.Joan@epa.gov<mailto:Card.Joan@epa.gov>>

> Subject: Utah DEQ Report on San Juan River Sampling Results

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> Hi Shaun,

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> Thanks for stopping by this afternoon. We really appreciate the kind words and support. As promised, I've attached a copy of the Utah DEQ Preliminary Report and a link to their website (<http://www.deq.utah.gov/Topics/Water/goldkingmine/index.htm>). I've only conducted a cursory review of the Utah DEQ sampling data and report. I hope to have time in the coming days to read the report more thoroughly. It will be interesting to compare the UDEQ sampling data with what we have sampled upstream on the Animas. Based on my quick initial review, a few points stood out:

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> - The UDEQ found that "total metal concentrations are highly variable and difficult to interpret with respect to this event." In some cases, the total metal concentrations were greater in samples collected prior to the arrival of the spill plume. The UDEQ attributes this to the high natural variability of total metals in the San Juan River and to monsoon rain events which increase the delivery of total metals to the river.

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> - In the evaluation of the threat to drinking water, recreation, fish and wildlife and agriculture, the DEQ report concludes that "Generally, professionals from all state agencies have concluded that, even at peak concentration, the observable increase in metals from the Gold King Mine release have posed minimal threat to all of these uses."

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> - The UDEQ used dissolved metal concentrations to track the plume. As we have found on the Animas River, the UDEQ concludes that the dissolved concentrations of metals in the San Juan River have declined to baseline concentrations.

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> The report was released on August 19, 2015.
>
> Joyel
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> Federal On-Scene Coordinator
> U.S. EPA Region 8
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>
> <UDEQ ImmediateEffectsSanJuanFINAL.pdf>